

# Currents

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*Megwa Ezhiweback*



*Ode'mini-Giizis (Strawberry Moon)*  
June 2010 Vol.7 Issue 6

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ROMANELLI**

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## Lee Sprague sworn onto Tribal Council



Former Ogema Lee Sprague has been sworn into office as the Outlying Tribal Council representative. In ceremonies conducted at the beginning of the regular Council session May 12th, Sprague was sworn in by Tribal Judge Angela Sherigan.



## Elk/Black Bear Hunt

The forms for you to apply to hunt  
Black Bear or Elk this year are on  
page 6.



## Council and Ogema weigh Board Changes

At the Spring Membership Meeting Tribal Council and the Ogema spent a great deal of time discussing proposed changes to the makeup of the board. Their thoughts are in the Ogema and Recording Secretary reports on pages 2, 3 and 4.

## Voter Registration

Tribal Citizens may now register to vote in tribal elections. See the new rules on pages 5 and 6.





Aanii,

The election for the open seat on Council for outlying representation has been won by Lee Sprague; I would like to congratulate Lee and welcome him back into the elected leadership of the Tribe and look forward to working with him on the many issues of the Tribe.

Our citizenship has reached 4,000 members as last reported by Director of Enrollment, Diane Lonn. Total number of Elders, 843; Total Adults, 2,662; Total Minors, 495. In Michigan approximately 2,707; outside of Michigan approximately 1,239. Nine-county area is about 1,763 and Outside the nine-county area is approximately 2,237. Thanks for the stats Diane.

Our Muskegon Project continues on and is now at the State legislative level needing House and Senate approval and we remain optimistic of that approval. If you go past the property you may notice some heavy equipment as we are doing some general cleanup of the site now that spring has arrived. We have had some inquiries on the several buildings on the property; they are not for sale at this time as there may be a need for them with future developments.

On April 9th, the Elder's requested the Council, Ogema and Casino Board of Directors attend a special meeting to address the possible changes to the Casino Board of Director's Ordinance. Elder's Committee Chairperson, Ron Pete posed questions from the citizens. The meeting was recorded and transcripts were to be published in this Currents, however there were some concerns at this time in doing so. I believe they will still be available shortly on our website. But to recap, there seemed to be agreement that there needs to be some changes to the current Ordinance which could help with accountability. It also appeared that all agreed that we need a full Board of Directors; how we achieve that accountability and fill those seats, are where the disagreement begins.

I still am of the belief that it is not in the best interest to have elected officials sit as voting members of the BOD at this time, while at least some, if not all of Council believes there is a need for more direct Council involvement. The original Revised Ordinance from Council had Council as the majority of the BOD, they have since reduced the number of Council person who would be on the BOD. While I like the revised ordinance better than the previous one, I still hold to the belief that elected officials should not have a voting seat on the Board. While, I would appreciate serving on the BOD, I also understand the amount of time required to do the job properly. Another concern I have is even with the latest Ordinance revision, the Chairperson would always be an elected person. A third issue I have is that I believe we should tighten our requirements to sit on the BOD. Gaming and business experience should be a must and we should be willing to increase the pay to

keep a professional Board. The cost at approximately 500,000 to \$700,000 is far less than what was paid in past years. In past years we paid multi-million dollars a year to have a management company oversee our Casino, we now spend less than a few hundred thousand dollars, I think for a board that oversees our largest enterprise by far, the value is undeniable.

I appreciate all parties coming together and for the Elder's for inviting us to speak. Miigwetch On April 29th, I had the opportunity along with LRBOI Economic Development Director, Robert Memberto, to attend the Economic Development Resources Tribal Nations Forum hosted by the State of Michigan Economic Development Corporation. The purpose of the Forum was to look at the various economic development possibilities for Michigan Tribes. The presenters were knowledgeable about the economic outlook for Michigan and possible business developments which are being lured to the State as well as sources of funding Tribal projects.

Consideration of a new Government Center is still in the works. If developed, it would be located just north of the Casino on what is known as the Bull property; (there's a joke there someplace!). With that I will close for now. Until next month...

REMEMBER, "when in doubt, mumble."



## Secretary Napolitano Announces Preparedness Task Force Members

*LRBOI's LaPorte assigned to Task Force*



Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano today announced the formation of the local, state, tribal, and federal Preparedness Task Force—a council of experts charged with assessing the state of the nation's disaster preparedness and making recommendations to Secretary Napolitano about ways to build resiliency in communities across America.

"Enhancing preparedness across our nation requires close collaboration between all levels

of government," said Secretary Napolitano. "The recommendations of this Task Force—comprised of emergency management and homeland security experts from states, cities and tribes across the country—will help guide our ongoing efforts to ensure the resilience of communities throughout the nation."

The Task Force is comprised of 35 members of local, state and tribal governments—many of whom have also served within federal government—offering a diverse cross-section of experience in homeland security and emergency management missions. The Task Force will also engage Congressional partners, as well as the private sector and non-governmental and development organizations through a variety of outreach activities.

The Conference Report accompanying the 2010 DHS Appropriations Act called for a Task Force responsible for "making recommendations for

all levels of government regarding: disaster and emergency guidance and policy; federal grants; and federal requirements"—with an emphasis on identifying preparedness policies, guidelines and grant programs that should be updated and recommending paths forward to improve the nation's collective capabilities for preparing for disasters.

The Task Force will conduct regular meetings and expects to deliver recommendations in September 2010.

**Tribal Task Force Members**

Dave Bunce, Fire Chief, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Fire Department, Arizona Robert DesRosier, Director, Blackfeet Nation Homeland Security Program and Emergency Services Program, Montana Joseph LaPorte, Public Safety Director, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Michigan



## Recorder's Report to Membership- May 2010

### Mother's Day - May 9.

*Mothers: Where would we be without them? Who would we be? Anishinaabek revere their Kwewok, the Lifegivers. Women carry the water of life within them, women are stewards of Mother Earth. Women protect her waters, the lifeblood of all. As I reflect on all the gifts my own Mother has given, I hope that one day, I can be as good a "Mom" to my children as she was to me. To all Mothers: Wishing you a most Happy*

*Mother's Day. (Belated, but sincere.)*

### Tribal Council meets with Ogema and Casino Board of Directors at the Invitation of the Elders

Members of the Tribal Council met with Members of the Board of Directors and Ogema Romanelli, during an evening meeting the night before the Membership meeting, April 9. Various questions were posed, with each body answering from the perspective of their own office. Councilors were asked to explain why they were in support of changing the law to modify the current Board of Directors Act. The Ogema was asked to explain his position and why he didn't support enactment of the new law. Members of the Board who were in attendance also fielded questions that allowed them the opportunity to provide their unique perspective as the current oversight body for the Casino. During this meeting, key points all parties were in agreement about were acknowledged as follows:

- 1) Communication issues between the Council, Ogema and Casino must be strengthened and improved.
- 2) Tighter requirements for reporting, compliance with mandated payments (such as NIGC dues or loan payments) and fiscal management were all identified as needing improvement by all participants. (It was noted that these issues were addressed in the new law, and the Ogema supports this provision.)
- 3) Independence of the oversight body, as well as accountability for the oversight of the Casino, were other emerging themes voiced by all parties.

The one area that seemed to be the primary source of disagreement between the parties was the appointment of elected officials to the Board of Directors. Specifically, the Ogema does not wish to serve on the Board of Directors, and stated so publicly. The Ogema had voiced that

he felt he was too busy to serve as the Chairman of the Board, given the other mandates required by his Office. Ogema Romanelli acknowledged that the only disagreement left between himself and the Council regarding this new law was the Elected Officials acting as voting members of the Board. Speaker Parsons pointed out that the current revisions under consideration have reduced the number of elected officials serving on the Board to two, with only one being a Council Member. Three members are to be selected from Tribal Citizens who are not elected officials. It was also noted that the overall goal of the Tribal Council was to improve processes, and accountability for the Operation. The Tribal Council thanks the Elders' Committee, for the invitation and opportunity to be a part of the meeting!

### Tribal Council approves Final Version of Little River Casino & Resort FY 2010 Annual Operating Plan and Budget

During the month of April, the Tribal Council was able to finalize approval of the FY 2010 LRCR Annual Plan and Budget. This action is the culmination of months of work, and deliberation regarding elements of the Plan. The revised Plan estimates the annual distribution to the Tribal Government will be \$34,077,343.00. This is an increase of \$661,645.00 from the original plan submitted during December of 2009. Normally, the Casino and Resort budget is submitted to Tribal Council for its approval during December, for the following fiscal year. This year, due to many unforeseen events, the Annual Plan was not able to be finalized until April, for final adoption. The Tribal Council had enacted multiple temporary authorizations by resolution, to ensure that the operation of the enterprise was not interrupted, pending a final budget. The Tribal Council thanks the Resort Management, for its diligence in preparing all the necessary documentation for approval. One of the main components of the Plan is the recruitment of Tribal Members for open positions or upcoming vacancies. Employment opportunities for our citizens at

the Resort is a priority for the Tribal Council. If you would like to have information on current job postings, or wish to be added to a distribution list (by email) for job postings, please contact Recorder Sam at [jmsam@lrboi.com](mailto:jmsam@lrboi.com). Please be reminded that summer employment opportunities are happening now! Members may also obtain information on planned employment opportunities or new positions that were approved in the budget by contacting the Recruiting office at the Casino, at (231) 723-1535. Ask for Janine Gregorski.

Currently, there are 786 employees at Little River Casino & Resort.

There are 79 Tribal Members employed (10% of the work force).

### New Governmental Center Under Consideration

A task force was created by resolution, consisting of the Ogema and members of the Tribal Council, with participation from members of the Executive Staff. This task force is currently reviewing potential construction of a consolidated Governmental Center, which will house most of the Little River Band Government Operations. The location of this new Center is on Trust Lands owned by the Tribe, near its Casino operation. The Tribe has received grant funds for road improvements to the parcel of property under consideration. The Tribal Council will consider funding proposals in the near future, to offset the construction costs of a new facility. As this process moves forward, there will be future updates. Hopefully, draft plans can be unveiled in the near future!

### Open Meet & Greet with Council at Muskegon Office

On Saturday, June 12, 2010, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., members of the Tribal Council will be available in the Muskegon Office Meeting room. Councilor Candace Chapman and Recorder Janine Sam have committed to this date/time, and other Council members will also be attending as their schedules allow. (As of this publication, some members of Council

were on travel, and the Recorder could not confirm their availability prior to publication deadline.) The meeting is a first attempt to host an open forum to allow members of the Tribe to meet with their Council representatives in an informal setting, to share ideas, express concerns or general commentary. Light refreshments will be available, and all are welcome. If there are specific issues that you wish to have information about, or questions that you wish to have answered, please contact Candace Chapman or Janine Sam no later than June 4, by 5:00 p.m. Contacting the Council office through the toll free number, or sending an email would be helpful, to ensure that Council members present have the information available you wish to know! It is the intent to schedule routine open meet & greets (on a monthly basis) at regular locations, in an effort to improve communications with the citizenry. Plans are also in the works to make a few "road trips" to other areas, such as Wisconsin or Southern Michigan as well. As always, citizens are encouraged to check the Tribal Council Calendar available on the Tribe's website, to view meeting schedules and attend work sessions. Tribal Councilors are also available for office appointments, if you have matters for discussion, at the Manistee Downtown Office Building.

## New Council Member to take Oath of Office-May 12, 2010

The Tribal Council accepted the final report of the Election Board for the Special Election conducted April 2010, during its meeting on May 3, 2010. Lee Sprague, the new Outlying Representative, will be sworn into office on May 12. The Tribal Council congratulates Lee on his election! As soon as Mr. Sprague is settled into his office, we will publish his contact information, office telephone and email, so that membership may contact him directly.

## Council meeting minutes up to date!

As of this publication, the Tribal Council's Open meeting records backlog has been resolved! As the Recorder, I am pleased to remind the citizens that minutes are published to the Tribe's Website on the Council page, by meeting date. The Tribal Council thanks its staff, for their dedication and efforts to complete all records, to get the minutes to the agenda for approval. I take this opportunity to ask the citizens: What else would you like to see published and available to you? Currently, the Recorder publishes the Tribal Council's weekly meeting schedule on the website, as well as any special announcements to the website and Rapid River news. Resolutions adopted by Tribal Council are also available at that website. I also publish reports from Commissions at that website location, and the reports filed by the Ogema monthly for the Government Operations. I welcome suggestions from everyone, please contact me by telephone or email, and let me know the news you can use!

## FY 2011 BUDGET (Yes, FY2011!)

The Tribal Council is required to hold an annual public hearing for the purpose of obtaining membership input to the budget process. This public hearing will be announced by postcard to head of households, in the very near future. The Ogema is also required to hold budget hearings, in order to prepare the next year's fiscal budget. Last year, when preparing the FY2010 budget, there were only three people in attendance at the Ogema's budget meeting. The Tribal Council is very interested in obtaining the citizens' feedback and input for future direction. As an example, should the Tribe budget for and hire the three division heads as proposed by the Osiyo study of 2009? This year, the Tribal Council did not authorize those positions or funding, as the study was not

fully completed during the budget deliberations. However, as next year's operations budget is on the horizon, this question may come up again. The Ogema has hosted presentations of the study findings, and made reference to the report during public meetings. The Tribal Council would like to obtain the recommendations from the citizens, when considering how to grow the government operation. Please watch your mailbox, and plan to attend one of the public meetings (Ogema's or Council's) to give your perspective on the future of the Tribe.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janine M. Sam  
Recorder



## Attention all Tribal Members

**Letters of interest will be kept on file for one year**

Tribal Committee/Commission openings.

Gaming Commission	2 openings
Health Commission	2 openings
Natural Resource	1 opening
Binojeeuk	2 openings
Muschigon	3 openings
LRCR Board	2 openings

Anyone interested in serving on any of the above commissions need to submit a letter of interest to the Ogema's office.



## Chapter 2: Registration of Voters

### Section 1. Application Process for Voter Registration.

**a. Official voter Registration Form and process.** An official Voter Registration Form can be obtained by written or verbal request to the Election Board, accessed at the information racks located in the Enrollment Building, Downtown Office Building, Muskegon Satellite Building or accessed from the Election Board's Little River Band's website or at the election Board's Office. An eligible voter, ant Tribal member, who is at least 18 years old or who will turn 18 years old by the date of the next Tribal election, or general membership meeting, must file an application to register to vote on the Voter Registration Form approved by the Board with the Election Board.

**b. Registered Voter mailing address.** The Election Board will send all correspondence regarding any voter Registration issues to the eligible or registered voter at the official mailing address maintained by the Enrollment Department. It is the registered voter's responsibility to maintain a current physical and mailing address with the Enrollment Department.

**c. Receipt of Voter Registration Form.** All completed voter registration form shall be date stamped upon receipt. Only an Election Board Member can open a Voter Registration Form Envelope.

**d. Deadline for receiving Voter Registration Forms and processing before the date of election.** If Voter Registration Form is not received by the Election Board 56 Calendar days before an election, the eligible voter will not be registered to vote in that election. The Election Board resumes processing Voter Registration Forms after the election. The Election Board will resume processing Voter Registration Forms after the election is completed for future voting privileges. The Board is not responsible for the future of an eligible voter to complete the registration requirements by the prescribed deadlines.

**e. Deadline for receiving Voter Registration Forms and processing before the date of the General Membership Meeting.** The Election Board shall make every effort to process Voter Registration Forms before the date of the next scheduled General Membership meeting. The Election Board shall not process Voter Registration Forms during the 14-day period before the date of a General Membership meeting. The Board is not responsible for the failure of an eligible voter to complete the registration requirements by the prescribed deadlines.

### Section 2: Election Board Review and Decision

**a. Initial Review.** Two Election Boards Members shall review each Voter Registration Form. The initial review of the Voter Registration Form includes:

1. Verifying the Information provided an official membership list certified by the Enrollment Department, the eligible voter's:
  - a. full name;
  - b. date of birth;
  - c. Tribal Identification Number;
  - d. a copy of their Tribal Identification card;
  - e. physical address;
  - f. mailing address, if different; and
  - g. County of residence.
- ii. Ensuring that the eligible voter has:
  - a. provided completed information consistent with that on file with the Enrollment Dept;
  - b. signed the Voter Registration Form in the proper place provided by the Election Board;
  - c. the signature is notarized by a Notary Public; and
  - d. has attached a copy of their Tribal Identification Card.

**b. Voter Registration Form Review checklist.** A Voter Registration Form review checklist shall be compiled for each Voter Registration Form. The Election Board shall review the checklist. Information in the checklist shall include, but not be limited to, the full name of the eligible voter; whether the necessary information is included in the application; whether the appropriate signatures are notarized; reasons for rejection and an area for Board members to sign and date, approving or rejecting the Voter Registration Form.

**c. Election Board decision.** After the initial review in Section 2-a is completed the 2 reviewing Election Board members shall decide whether the eligible voter is approved for registration.

- i. Approval. If the eligible voter is eligible for registration, the 2 Board members shall approve, Sign, and date the Voter's Registration Form review checklist;

ii. Once the Voter Registration Form is approved, the Election Board members shall meet with the Enrollment Officer and the Election Board members shall witness the entry of the Voter Registration information into the Enrollment Departments secured data base.

iii. Inadequate Information. If the eligible voter has not forwarded enough information to be qualified for registration, the Election Board shall send a letter to the eligible voter informing her/him of the necessary missing information by the deadline stated in order to qualify for the upcoming election or General Membership meeting.

- i. Approval. If the eligible voter is eligible for registration, the 2 Board members shall approve, Sign, and date the Voter's Registration Form review checklist;

ii. Once the Voter Registration Form is approved, the Election Board members shall meet with the Enrollment Officer and the Election Board members shall witness the entry of the Voter Registration information into the Enrollment Departments secured data base.

iii. Inadequate Information. If the eligible voter has not forwarded enough information to be qualified for registration, the Election Board shall send a letter to the eligible voter informing her/him of the necessary missing information by the deadline stated in order to qualify for the upcoming election or General Membership meeting.

- iv. Rejection. If the eligible voter is rejected for registration:
- a. the Election Board shall state the reasons therefore;
  - b. the 2 reviewing Board members shall sign and date the Voter Registration Form checklist; and
  - c. the Election Board shall send a letter to the eligible voter stating the reasons for rejection; and
  - d. the eligible voter may request a hearing, as provided in Chapter 7.

**d. Voter Registration Card.** If the Voter Registration Form is accepted, the Election Board shall send a Voter Registration Card to the registered voter.

**e. Validity of Voter Registration.** Once an eligible voter has become registered and has been issued a Voter Registration Card by the Election Board, the voter registration shall be valid for six years from the effective date of registration. The registered voter is responsible to maintain a current name and address with the Enrollment Department.

### Section 3. Voter Registration Cards.

**a. Election Board Seal.** After the Election Board certifies the registered voters, each Registration Form shall be stamped with the Board's seal, and an effective date and expiration date shall be listed. The Voter Registration Cards shall also be sealed, and the Board shall mail the Voter Registration Card to the registered voter.

**b. Record keeping.** The information on the Voter Registration Form shall be filed in the Tribal members secured record file in the Enrollment Data Base in the Enrollment Office.

**c. Name or address change.** If a registered voter changes either her/his first, last, or both names or address, the registered voter is responsible for timely notifying the Tribal Enrollment Department.

### Section 4. Renewal of Voter Registration.

**a. Members obligation.** It shall be the obligation of the member to renew voter registration prior to the date of expiration on the Voter Registration Card in order to retain the rights of a registered voter.

**b. Election Board will determine expiring voter registrations.** The Election Board will query the data base on a monthly basis to determine those voters whose registration will expire within the next (90) days.

**c. Election Board will provide notice and renewal information.** The Election Board will send a notice of expiration and a renewal of voter registration packet to those members whose voter registration will expire within the next ninety (90) days.

**d. Renewal Process.** Renewal of registration shall proceed according to the registration process specified in Sections 1 and 2 above.

## Black Bear and Elk Permits

The Natural Resource Commission will be hosting its annual lottery drawing for Elk and Black Bear Permits for the 2010 Seasons.

The drawing will take place at noon on July 10th, 2010 at the NEW Community Center located off Dontz Road at Aki.

If you are interested in participating in one or both drawings, please completely fill out one or both of the permit forms listed below and return them to:

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Natural Resource Department  
375 River Street Manistee, MI 49660 and postmarked no later than June 1st, 2010.

You do not need to be present to win. You will be contacted by Natural Resource Department staff via the telephone number you provide on the permit form if your name is drawn.

Winners of the Elk permits will have to attend a mandatory training prior to being provided with the permit and flagging materials.

Good Luck!"

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone : \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tribal ID # \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you an elder? Yes [ ] No [ ]  
Black Bear [ ]  
Drawing Date: July 10, 2011  
Drawing will be held at the new Community  
Center at 12:00 pm

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone : \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tribal ID # \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you an elder? Yes [ ] No [ ]  
Elk [ ]  
Drawing Date: July 10, 2010  
Drawing will be held at the new Community  
Center at 12:00 pm



The 2010 Great Lakes Homeland Security Conference and Exposition was held again this year at the Convention Center in Grand Rapids.

Attending from LRBOI were three members of the tribe's emergency management team including TPD officers Janelle Cook; Sgt. Vance Bates and Public Affairs Director Glenn Zaring. Several other tribes were represented at the conference this year as well. Side meetings were held among tribal representatives concerning the possibility of inter-tribal cooperation in the area of emergency management. At these meetings there was general agreement that as Michigan Tribes we should work together whenever possible. One issue raised by Ogema Romanelli and former LTBB chair Frank Ettawageshik at the

United Tribes of Michigan meetings this year has been the need to establish such agreements between the tribes for these purposes.

The Michigan tribes are making some positive strides in their involvement with the states' emergency management apparatus and find that they are now being involved at various stages along the way. As an example, for the majority of the presentations, the tribes' were mentioned as being one of the key stakeholders in the overall equation and our input was considered as an involved governmental entity.

One key theme of the conference this year concerned the sharing of information between agencies in order to help response times and coordination of assets to answer threats to our society and community. In the past, lack of cooperation between agencies had gotten in the way of efficient response and this has been identified as a serious area of concern. Maj. General Barry McCaffrey (Ret.) was one of the closing key note speakers and he commented that the state of Michigan is one of the few states bringing together its emergency responders from all levels to plan how to work together in the future. He complimented the 800+ assembled men and women on being proactive for the common good.



Representing 32 high schools and 5 states, these 35 Little River Band tribal citizens are graduating from high school this year! To date, more than ¼ of these students are currently in the process of applying to or have already been accepted to start college in the fall. Congratulations Class of 2010! We are proud of you and wish you a bright future!

Gage Barrow, Muskegon, MI  
Catherine Baulch-Koprin, St Clair, MI  
John Carey, Jr, Muskegon, MI  
Jacob Carter, Bay City, MI  
Tara Chivis, Hastings, MI  
Bernarda Collins, Holland, MI  
Kelsey Davis, Manistee, MI  
Bob DeBoer, Grand Rapids, MI  
Douglas DeVerney, Wagner, SD  
Robert Engstrom, Wyoming, MI  
Nicholas From, New Berlin, WI  
LaJon Fullen, Milwaukee, WI  
Jennifer Horne, Caledonia, MI  
Travis Hyma, Muskegon, MI  
Jessica Kelsey, Muskegon, MI  
Jarrett Kelsey, Coopersville, MI  
Ashley Klein, Eastlake, MI  
Samantha LaHaye, Wellston, MI  
Mercedes Nickerson, Conklin, MI  
Steven Paul, Burton, MI  
Brett Peoples, Walkerville, MI  
Chasman Rose, Grand Rapids, MI  
Samuel Sanchez II, Racine, WI  
Laureen Schmidt, Suttons Bay, MI  
Alycia Shepard, Manistee, MI  
Jesskia Sly, Gladstone, MI  
Kendra Smith, Dimondale, MI  
Anthony Switala, Interlochen, MI  
Ryan Szpliet, Manistee, MI  
Mallory Sprague, Grand Rapids, MI  
Michael Still, Redford, MI  
Greyewolfe Stroh, Copemish, MI  
Lexi Taylor, Newport Beach, CA

Mona Shores High School  
Marysville High School  
Holton High School  
John Glenn High School  
Lakewood High School  
Holland High School  
Manistee High School  
Northwest Career Pathways  
Marty Indian School  
Comstock Park High School  
New Berlin West High School  
Kilmer High School  
Godwin Heights High School  
Reeths Puffer High School  
Muskegon High School  
Coopersville High School  
Manistee High School  
Brethren High School  
Coopersville High School  
Bendle High School  
Oceana High School  
Union High School  
J.I. Case High School  
Suttons Bay High School  
Manistee High School  
Escanaba High School  
Holt High School  
Traverse City West Senior High School  
Manistee High School  
City High School  
Novi Catholic Central High School  
Flandreau Indian School  
Insight High School

Michael Vega, Hanover Park, IL  
Daisy Walters, Sparta, MI

Lake Park High School  
Sparta High School





## Parenting Class Comes to Muskegon in July

### Positive Indian Parenting: Honoring Our Children By Honoring our Traditions

LRBOI Family Services Department will again be offering Positive Indian Parenting class once a week in Muskegon beginning July 6th through August 25th from 5:30-7:30 pm at the Muskegon Tribal office.

The eight-week curriculum was developed by the National Indian Child Welfare Association to provide a brief, practical, and culturally specific training program for Indian parents. The goals of the program are to help Indian parents: 1) explore the values and attitudes expressed in traditional Indian child-rearing practices, and to apply them to modern parenting skills and 2) develop positive attitudes, values and skills that have roots in their cultural heritage.

Positive Indian Parenting draws on the cultural strengths of Native American child-rearing. The material in this curriculum has been developed through extensive consultation with tribal elders, Native American social welfare professionals and parents. The result is a curriculum that focuses on the positive values of the traditional ways as a model and seeks to help parents decide for themselves what kind of parent they want to be.

#### Included in the eight sessions are:

- Traditional Parenting – history, cultural strengths
- Lessons of the Storyteller – communication, values, observation
- Lessons of the Cradleboard – bonding nurturing, development
- Harmony in Childrearing – balance, family structure, self-control, prevention
- Traditional Behavioral Management – guidelines, limits, discipline
- Lessons of Mother Nature – living skills, social skills
- Praise in Traditional Parenting – positive reinforcement skills
- Choices in Parenting – setting goals, what kind of parent you want to be

The class incorporates traditional components such as smudging, prayers in the Anishnabe language, Seven Grandfather teachings, the talking feather, and giveaways. Guest speakers may be invited from time to time to share storytelling, singing, cradleboard demonstration, or tribal ceremonies and customs.

We welcome single mothers and fathers, two-parent families, grandparents, perspective parents, step-parents, foster parents, or anyone who is facing the challenge of raising children. The class accepts referrals from the courts, DHS, local schools, and other tribal departments as a culturally appropriate alternative to other parenting programs offered in the community.

There is no charge for the class and a light supper will be provided, as well as weekly gifts for participants. Child care may be available – check later. For more information or to register for the class please stop by the tribal office at 1101 W. Hackley (corner of Hackley and Barclay), or contact: Kathy Lagerquist 231-398-6705 or Shelly Kequam 231-398-6707

All children are gifts from the Creator. They help us find out who and what we are as human beings.

#### Comments from past participants:

"I loved this program...it helped me more than you'll ever know."  
 "It should be twice a day! Keep it going."  
 "I loved being able to exchange ideas with other parents."  
 "Extend it longer than eight weeks."  
 "My favorite part was passing the feather around and sharing stories."



## Congrats Grads!

Congratulations Amber Shepard on receiving your bachelor's degree from CMU with a major in Sociology and a minor in Spanish! We are so proud of you!

Love,  
 Mom, Dad Kayla, Chuck,  
 Jessica, TJ and all of your nieces and nephews

#### CONGRATULATIONS RYAN SZPLIET!

2010 Graduate of Manistee High School.  
 We are all very proud of you- for sticking with it, for not giving up, and for investing in your own future! With much love, Mom & Brian, Zach, Wyatt, Zhaawan & Nimkiins



The Thunders arrived in Ann Arbor, just before the President of the United States. To some, it would seem to be a gloomy day for their college graduation, but to Chelsea Bromley, it was fitting. "I knew my relatives would come," she observed about the lightning and thunder.

On May 1, 2010, Chelsea Marie Bromley graduated from the University of Michigan. Chelsea is the daughter of Jessica & Fred Burger and Tim Bromley. Chelsea graduated from Onkama High School as its Valedictorian in 2006, and proudly served as the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Princess in 2005. She was awarded a full academic scholarship to the University.

Graduating from college is a momentous occasion in anyone's life, appreciated by family and shared with friends. On this day, however, adding to the grandeur of the commencement ceremony in the "Big House", the United States Marine Corps helicopters flew overhead. Secret Service guardians walked aisle ways, and patrolled the graduate area. President Barack Obama delivered the commencement address.

Chelsea's family would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their prayers and support of this talented young woman during her journey thus far. A special thank you to the Anishinaabe Kwewok, the women of Little River Band, who made time to share themselves with Chelsea when they could. Chelsea graduated with University Honors, earning two Bachelor of Arts degrees; the first in Film Arts & Culture, and the second separate degree in English. Her family is extremely proud of her and her accomplishments. Congratulations Chelsea Bromley, University of Michigan Class of 2010.





## Niibin Youth Camp



**Who: Ages 8-16**

**When: Monday through Friday August 2-13, 2010  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**Where: Little River Band of Ottawa Indians POW-WOW grounds**

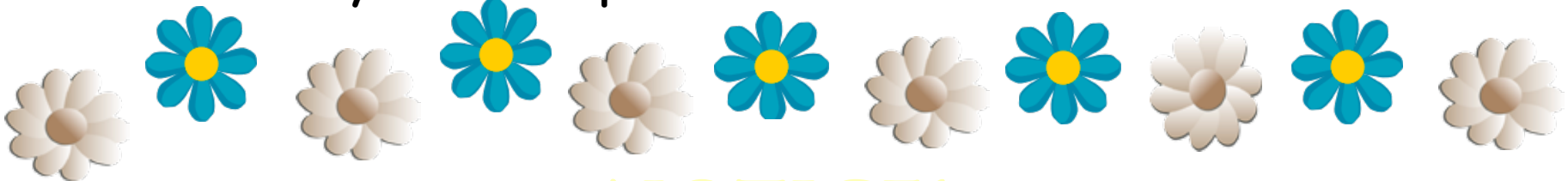
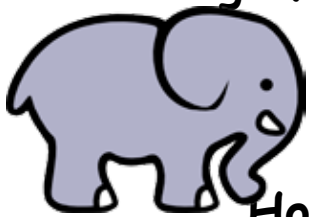
**Activities: Many field trips to parks, museums, miniature golf, horse back riding, water games and many surprises!!!**

**Learn to eat healthy and have an active life**

**All new this year. Don't miss out.**

**For more information or to sign up contact**

**Holly Davis Diabetes Educator at 231-398-6610 or the  
Community Health Representative office at 231-298-6629.**



## NOTICE!

ADMIN BUILDING HOURS OF OPERATION ARE MONDAY – FRIDAY FROM 8 TO 5. THE OFFICE IS CLOSED FOR LUNCH FROM 12-1. INDIVIDUALS IN NEED OF SERVICES DURING THE LUNCH HOUR PERIOD MAY CONTACT THE DEPARTMENTS TO REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT.



## LRCR Board of Directors

### *Porter appointed to Board*

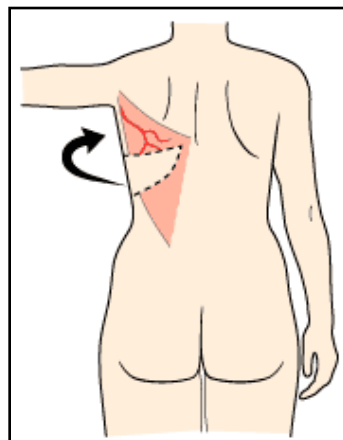
Former Tribal Council member, Elder Elaine Porter was appointed to the Little River Casino Resort Board of Directors at the Tribal Council meeting on April 21st. Porter had been nominated by Ogema Larry Romanelli.

My Journey began over a year and a half ago in August-2008 I would like to share and educate everyone on the surgery that was chosen for me by my surgeon's. Of course I had 3 options and only one fit me with the kind of cancer I had. I had 2 different kinds of cancer an invasive and non-invasive form of cancer. I definitely am not ashamed to share this with all the tribal members. I was chosen to have the Double Bi-lateral mastectomy/ Latissimus Dorsi Flap Breast Reconstruction Surgery. I was in surgery for 7 ½ hours and they did my reconstruction the same day as the double mastectomy.

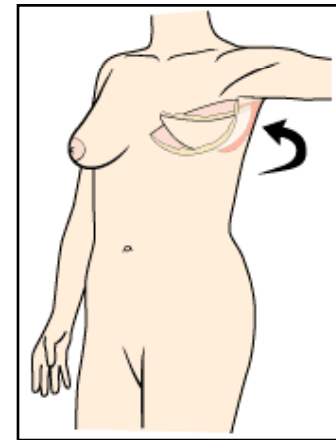
Latissimus Dorsi breast reconstruction uses muscle from the back of the shoulder blade which is brought around to the breast mound to help create a new breast. A section of skin, fat and muscle is detached from the back and brought to the breast area.

Many patients undergoing a Latissimus Dorsi flap procedure also require a tissue expander for additional volume. The expander is replaced by a permanent implant at a second procedure down the line.

The procedure leaves a scar on the mid-back / shoulder region that can sometimes be seen through a tank-top, swimsuit or sundress. The upper back can be numb or for a few months until the nerves grow back. Women who are very active in sports should know that this procedure can reduce your ability to participate in such activities like golf, climbing, swimming, or tennis.



Step 1: Following the mastectomy the patient is turned onto her stomach or side in order to prepare the back tissue. A section of skin, fat and muscle is then detached from the shoulder region.



Step 2: After the Latissimus Dorsi flap is harvested the patient is then turned onto her back and the surgeons will begin the process of attaching the appropriate veins, arteries and shaping the breast mound.

I think it is nice to know that when you are diagnosed with any form of cancer that there is always options for you.

As doctors sit down with you and tell you this is what is best for you always get a 2nd opinion. I can not stress the importance of a 2nd opinion. I got a 2nd opinion and now I am glad I did. I was teamed up with a wonderful team of doctors at St. Mary's Lack's Cancer Center in Grand Rapids. If it wasn't for the team of doctors I had I would not have had the best treatment for my cancer. Now it has been 5 months and 1 year I have been cancer free and it is a wonderful feeling to have and know that God did give me another chance at life.

Thank you,  
Kimberly Alexander

## IHS Director Praises Health Insurance Reform Law

In a statement issued today, Indian Health Service Director Yvette Roubideaux praised the recent passage of the health insurance reform legislation, which included the reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

"This law will improve the quality of health care and make it more accessible and affordable for the American people, including American Indians and Alaska Natives," she said.

Her statement highlighted several provisions that will benefit Native American people specifically:

- Health insurance reform creates a state-based health exchange through which individuals and small businesses can purchase health insurance coverage. This will create more affordable insurance options and allow comparison of plans.
  - American Indians and Alaska Natives who purchase health insurance through the exchange do not have to pay co-pays or other cost-sharing if their income is under 300 percent of the federal poverty level.
  - The value of health services/benefits from IHS-funded health programs or Tribes will be excluded from an individual's gross income so it cannot be taxed.
  - Health insurance reform also expands Medicaid coverage to individuals with incomes up to 133% of poverty level.
  - For individuals who have Medicare Part D coverage (medication costs), I/T/U spending will count toward the coverage gap (donut hole).
- (Reported in the AIR Blog from Falmouth Institute 4.15.2010)

Come see  
the true  
culture of  
our people

Cultural Corridor  
Little River  
Casino Resort  
Manistee, Michigan



Contact: Cyndy Fuller

Executive Dir. AES 231-723-4325

For Immediate Release

Manistee Michigan – The Alliance for Economic Success (AES) announced today that it has received proposals to perform energy audits for government owned facilities in Manistee County. A leadership team of six community representatives, working with the AES, will select a consultant to conduct energy audits on selected facilities in Manistee County. Leadership Team members are, Rick Schrock, citizen representative, Frank Beaver, environmental planner for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Ramona DeGeorgio-Venegas, outdoor recreation planner and technician for USFS, Jeanette Somsel, vice president of retail operations for West Shore Bank, Sean Adams, owner of Bear Lake Ace Hardware, and, Jaclyn Miel-Uken, regional planner with the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments. Jim Draz, consultant to AES will administer the grant project. The AES is administering an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), awarded to Manistee County by the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor, and Economic Growth (DeLEG).

Manistee County, using \$55,000 from the EECBG will administer energy audits for selected facilities. Local units of government will receive a Request for Proposals (RFP) to perform an audit in one or more of their facilities. Facility managers interested in an energy audit will be asked to submit proposals to the AES. All local government owned/operated facilities in Manistee County will be eligible for an audit. Eligible government-owned facilities include school buildings, health care facilities, Manistee County local-government-owned facilities, and county and city facilities. The RFP will be sent to local government near the end of May 2010. Responses will be returned to the AES before the end of June 2010. Audits will be performed during July, August, and September 2010.



Energy audits will be awarded on a competitive basis. To be eligible for an audit, facility managers will be asked to show/demonstrate,

- A history of energy costs for heat, lighting, etc.,
- The percentage of annual budget spent on energy costs,
- The square footage of heated space in a facility being considered for an audit,
- Description of any present or past energy conservation efforts,
- Pending plans for future energy conservation work,
- Capacity to implement recommendations from a comprehensive energy audit (a line item in a budget for energy conservation, for example).

The RFP being sent to local government will ask for this type of information. A goal of the county's EECBG Energy Audit Grant project is to provide free, comprehensive audits for government-owned facilities that can realize the greatest savings from energy conservation, and that are best prepared to implement recommendations from the free audits.

"This grant is a perfect fit with the priority of our County Board of Commissioners and their Green Team to promote county-wide energy efficiency and conservation," said Tom Kaminski, Manistee County Administrator.

"The future of our County depends in no small measure on how well we lead in improving efficiency and reducing waste. This grant will be a catalyst to achieve important energy savings and waste reduction throughout Manistee County."



## Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP Attorneys at law

The law firm of Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP is pleased to announce the addition of John F. Petoskey as a new Partner in our Law Firm, as well as the opening of our new office in Michigan to provide enhanced service to our valued clients.



Michigan Office  
John F. Petoskey  
2848 Settebo Road  
Peshawbestown, Mi. 49682  
Phone: 231-271-6391  
Cell: 231-631-8558  
Fax: 231-271-6391  
Email: [jpetoskey@ndnlaw.com](mailto:jpetoskey@ndnlaw.com)

**[www.ndnlaw.com](http://www.ndnlaw.com)**

Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP is a full service law firm that limits its practice to Indian tribes and Native American organizations throughout the U.S.

California \* Nebraska \* South Dakota \* Colorado \*  
Washington DC \* North Dakota \* Michigan \*

## Tax-Exempt Quotas

**Tax-exempt motor fuel monthly limit is 175 gallons per Tribal member.**

**Tax-exempt cigarette monthly limit is 20 packs per Tribal member.**

New procedures coming for tax-exempt purchases at  
Little River Trading Post

New computer software will be installed soon at the Little River Trading Post to make it easier to track discounted fuel sales, cigarette quotas and tax discounts for reporting to the state. If you purchase tax-exempt gas or cigarettes from Little River Trading Post, all purchases will require your tribal card to be swiped into a new computer located inside the gas station. If you do not have a card with a readable magnetic strip that has been encoded, you will not be able to receive your discount.

The old system that is currently in place requires a very labor intensive process of manually updating files every day for all tax-exempt fuel, cigarette and tobacco product purchases. The new system will significantly reduce the cost and time to manage these purchases and simplify the process for members and for the staff.

Watch the Rapid River News and notices at the Little River Trading Post for more information as it becomes available.



Michigan State University is holding its Pre-College Leadership Program (PCLP) Retreat for Native American Youth July 25-30, 2010 at the MSU campus in East Lansing. This camp is open for students in grades 8 through 12. There is no cost for attendance, but students must have their own transportation to and from MSU. (If LRBOI students attend, transportation can be provided by LRBOI Education Department from Manistee to MSU- but you'd have to get to Manistee)

What is PCLP Summer Youth Retreat? It's a week-long residential experience where Native American Youth can explore both traditional culture and college life! Academic workshops, cultural activities, and social events are all facilitated and supervised by MSU Native faculty, staff and current undergraduate students! The PCLP Youth Retreat is the perfect place for Native young people to learn about college!

It is designed for students who will be entering 8th to 12th grades in the fall of 2010. Space is limited to the first 30 applicants.

Students will stay in a college residence hall, explore college classes, explore career opportunities, improve understanding of the college admissions process, improve understanding of financial aid, develop relationships with other Native youth from across the state, develop relationships with Native role models from across the state, practice for the ACT, develop leadership skills, enjoy social and cultural activities, and have fun!

If you are interested you can contact Stephanie Chau, PCLP Coordinator at (517) 353-1822 or [chaus@msu.edu](mailto:chaus@msu.edu) for more information or applications. You can also stop in at the tribal Education Department to pick up an application.

Lake Superior State University offers a project supported by the National Science Foundation, which promotes the study of the Earth and career opportunities for minorities within the geosciences. The program is GRANITE- Geological Reasoning and Natives Investigating the Earth.

The program targets current 10th and 11th grade Native American high school students. Students will participate in a two week long summer geosciences field experience where they will travel by vehicle from Sault Ste Marie to the Black Hills, South Dakota. Students will study geological processes. They will spend extended time outdoors, hiking, working in teams, camping, and riding next to one another in the vehicle.

For more information please contact Stephanie Sabatine, Native American Center Director, Lake Superior State University. (906) 635-6664 or [ssabatine@lssu.edu](mailto:ssabatine@lssu.edu)

Food Distribution Program ( FDPIR ) was created by congress in 1977 Food Stamp Act as an alternative to the Food Stamp Program for Indian Reservations. The program offers commodity to low income Native American households. No household may participate in both the Commodity Food Program and Food Stamp Program, but eligible households can switch from one program to the other at the end of each month. Eligibility and participation for FDPIR are based on application and certification requiring tribal status, income and resources qualification. In determining who is eligible for the program. We are federally funded by the USDA and they set the regulations and guidelines for the Commodity Program.

USDA Income  
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations  
Net Monthly Income Standards  
October 1, 2009 & October 1, 2010  
Household Size Income Limits

1. \$ 1,044.00
2. \$ 1,356.00
3. \$ 1,667.00
4. \$ 1,991.00
5. \$ 2,329.00
6. \$ 2,666.00
7. \$ 2,978.00
8. \$ 3,290.00

For each additional member add \$ 312.00

Commodity Department serves 13 counties: Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa, Wexford.

Office hours are 8:00 A.M – 5:00 P.M

Lunch hour is 12:00 1:00

Yvonne Theodore, Laurie Jackson

1-888-723-8288 ask for Commodity Program

Office # are 231-398-6716 or 231-398-6715





The Goal of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Peacemaking talking circle, what we do and how we do it.

The Peacemaking Session and a Peacemaking Talking Circles are very different. A Peacemaking Session is about creating an agreement between the Victim and the offender. So they can start to work together for the benefit of everyone involved, and to start to repair and heal their relationship. The key to having a successful peacemaking session, you will need to ask yourself, is it appropriate in this case? Also do both of the parties agree to a Peacemaking Session? The goal of the peacemaking session is healing the victim and having the offender take responsibility.

## The Peacemaking Talking Circle

By  
Patrick D. Wilson

Whereas the Peacemaking Talking Circle, is made up of caring and concerned community members. The Peacemaking talking circle's main objective or goal is about the offender and what the offender can do to help the victim become "whole." This is done through the discussions of each community member that helps to make up the Talking Circle. Each discussion, comment, or story has one goal and that is to find out what it is going to take for the victim to heal from the offender's actions. In a Peacemaking Talking Circle there are different roles and duties. There is the leader, teacher, or facilitator, the one who starts the circle, there are the participants, the offender and if it is appropriate the victim. Each participant in the talking circle works towards helping the offender to see how their actions have affected the victim, the family members, and the community as a whole. The participants will also show the offender the need to take responsibility for their actions, to apologize, and to make a real effort to amend the wrong they done to the victim, and to hear the victim's side of what it will take for them to start to heal. In most cases the offender will be a first time offender, or an at risk child. There are others that may be appropriate, like conflict issues between employees, and divorces. In these cases both parties would need to agree, that they want to heal their relationships.



Patrick D. Wilson,  
Peacemaking/Probation Supervisor  
Phone: (231) 398-2239  
E-mail: pwilson@lrboi.com

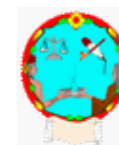
**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS  
PEACEMAKING/PROBATION DEPARTMENT  
"Odenaang Enjinoojimoying"  
3031 Domres Road Manistee, Michigan 49660**

Austen Brauker,  
Peacemaking/ Probation Assistant  
Phone: (231) 398-2240  
E-mail: abrauker@lrboi.com

## *Come out and join us for our monthly Peacemaking Talking Circle*



**Aanii piish (where) ... Justice Center  
Wenesh pii (when). June 28st at 5:30  
NOTE: The meeting is the last Monday of every month.**



## Contract Health Services and Extended Health Assistance Program \*\*\*BIG CHANGES COMING SOON FOR CHS AND EHAP!!! \*\*\*

The CHS and EHAP will be undergoing some major changes. Coming soon, you will no longer have a 'specific' representative for CHS or EHAP. There will be one person handling registration and referrals, one handling purchase orders and confirmation numbers, one handling claims/bills, etc.

The programs were ran this way a few years ago and worked pretty well. With the staff we have in place now, I believe it will run excellent. Look for these changes to be implemented by mid-summer. We need to wait for some construction work to be done to make the transition a smooth one.

### CHANGES AT GTB

GTB (Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians) will no longer issue glasses to anyone who lives OUTSIDE their service area. They will serve any member of a federally recognized tribe that resides in their service area for glasses. Their service area consists of Antrim, Benzie, Manistee, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, and Charlevoix counties.

### FREE METFORMIN

Meijer Pharmacy is offering FREE Metformin for anyone who has a written prescription for it from their physician. It will be available in 100 tablet increments of 500mg, 850mg, and 1000mg. They also offer free Antibiotics and Prenatal Vitamins.

### REMINDERS

Please remember to NOT leave your appointment or prescription information on the voicemail. Please DO remember to leave your name and phone number including the area code so we may call you back.

If you DO NOT receive a return call from your specialist (worker) within 24 hours, please call the health department reception area and ask to speak to another specialist (worker). We want to make sure your appointments and/or prescription information gets taken care of.

You can call in your appointments sooner than 48 hours if you have the information available for the specialist. For example, if you receive an appointment for a 3 month follow up with a physician, please call and report it right away. This helps in case you forget and miss the 48 hour deadline for scheduled appointments. \*\*Remember, this DOES NOT apply to Emergency Room visits or emergent appointments.\*\*

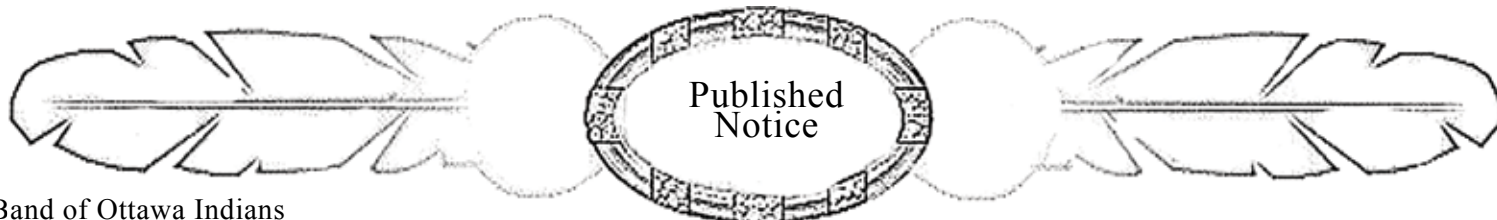
Please remember if you have any questions or are not sure how to proceed with something regarding your healthcare, call the office and we will help. Our goal is to make sure everything is in order BEFORE something happens or comes up.

The toll free number to the Health Services Building is 1.888.382.8299 or locally the number is 231.723.8299. Thank you and have a great spring!

Respectfully submitted by:

Gina Wright  
CHS/EHAP Supervisor

## COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS



May 3, 2010  
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
375 River Street  
Manistee, MI 49660  
(231) 723.8288

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

### REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about May 18, 2010, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians will submit a request to HUD for the release of Indian Housing Block Grant funds under Title I of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, as amended, to undertake a project known as Aki Maadiziwin Housing Project, for the purpose of constructing homes that are approximately 1400 – 1500 sq. ft. single family dwellings with a garage and a full basement. The subdivision is located on Dontz Road in Manistee, MI.

### FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1996 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians main office, 375 River Street, Manistee, MI, 49660 and may be examined or copied weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Housing Department. All comments received by May 18, 2010 will be considered by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of the Notice they are addressing. All comments should be directed to the Housing Department at the following address: 375 River Street, Manistee, MI, 49660.



Originally printed at <http://www.indiancountrytoday.com/national/91908859.html>

**SAN DIEGO** – Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., envisions a public ceremony to announce the passage of the Native American Apology Resolution.

The Kansas senator introduced an apology in 2004 in partnership with former Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, of the Northern Cheyenne Nation. The Senate finally passed a version of the resolution last October and President Barack Obama signed it into law as part of a defense appropriations bill in December.

“I’ve been pushing the administration to have a major public ceremony, but they aren’t taking it on yet,” Brownback told Indian Country Today at the National Indian Gaming Association’s annual Indian Gaming Trade Show & Convention in early April.

Brownback was a guest speaker at the convention where he discussed the apology during a NIGA membership meeting. He is stepping down from his Senate seat this year to run for governor in Kansas.

He handed out copies of the resolution, which says in part that Congress, “apologizes on behalf of the people of the United States to all Native Peoples for the many instances of violence, maltreatment, and neglect inflicted on Native Peoples by citizens of the United States.”

The resolution also “urges the President to acknowledge the wrongs of the United States against Indian tribes in the history of the United States in order to bring healing to this land.” It comes with a disclaimer that nothing in the resolution authorizes or supports any legal claims against the United States and that the resolution does not settle any claims against the United States.

“Now this may seem like just words, but we worked five or six years to get these passed and we were never able to get one passed. This has been a long time coming. I think this is historic and I think it’s incredibly significant. Canada did this (issued an apology to the First Nations) and I thought it was a very significant thing, but it has to be the president,” Brownback told the audience.

He said the resolution was not the end, but the first step toward a healing process.

“It’s my hope that tribal leaders here will see this as a positive step forward on healing and making a full reconciliation between the U.S. and tribal leadership, tribal leadership and the states and the states recognizing the sovereignty that’s there.”

The presidential signing of the bill took place without any fanfare or announcement just before Christmas. Like the eternal philosophical puzzler, “If a tree falls in the forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?” questions soon popped up regarding the validity of an apology that no one knows about.

Brownback hoped tribal leadership would put forward an effort in the form of resolutions from the National Congress of American Indians, the United South and Eastern Tribes and NIGA urging Obama to have “a very public ceremony, invite the tribal leadership to be there and then the country knows about it. We passed it, but nobody knows about it. It isn’t like it didn’t happen, because it did, but you need to bring the resolution to the country. The words have been stated and now it is law,” Brownback said.

In late February, the Friends Committee on National Legislation, urged Obama to publicly acknowledge the Native American Apology Resolution.

“This apology deserves national recognition and public acknowledgment. To give true hearing to the apology, we respectfully request that you hold a White House ceremony with tribal leaders to formally issue the apology to Native peoples. We also look forward to additional steps in an action plan that will help to right the past wrongs,” the FCNL said.

Brownback and a number of legislators have sent a letter to the president urging him to hold a ceremony, and a similar letter from the NCAI is circulating among tribal leaders.

Tribal leaders at the NIGA event are confident a ceremony will take place this year. While the public ceremony is hugely important, they said they recognized that the president may have other pressing priorities. The leaders suggested a good time for an apology ceremony would be around the time of the second Native American Heritage Day in November and that they are hopeful it will take place then.

## LRBOI Making the Grade – MIEA

THE MIEA Incentive program was one of the things that done at the MIEA meeting and every tribe was given a list of their students that earned Incentive money. We are proud of our students because Little River Band came in second in the number of students were rewarded. This program is on the first two marking periods of the school year. The only tribe that had more awards was Sault Ste. Marie, the biggest tribe in Michigan with 35,000 members.

We had two students that had both all A’s and perfect attendance, one student Had two periods all A’s and one perfect attendance; Seven students all A’s; two marking periods; Six students had perfect attendance both marking periods; and Seven students had perfect attendance for one marking period.

We wish we could tell each one of these students how proud we all are of them and hope they come back next year and more than we had this year. Remember it is Perfect Attendance not one day can be missed and all A’s not one B its not honor roll it is all A’s from A+ to A-. And WE KNOW MORE CAN MAKE THE GRADE WITH JUST A LITTLE MORE EFFORT!

(submitted by the Elders of LRBOI)





When you visit the Justice Center now you will see security enhancements that make the entire facility better for visitors, the Court and employees alike!

Several months ago, employees Spring Leusby and Nicole Ward hopped in and assembled the new Magnetometer (Metal Detector) for the Courts...all by themselves too! This type of equipment is standard in Government Buildings and Courts across the country and is a major deterrent to having people carry unauthorized weapons into areas where they are not allowed. Thanks to Spring and Nicky for their extra work!

Another visible sign of the upgrade to the facility is the installation of security windows for the Courts and Prosecutor service windows. These bullet-proof windows provide easy access and communication with staff while providing excellent protection for the employees. Lastly, the building now has proximity card readers installed on the various access doors. These 'prox card readers' are keyed by employee pass keys. They were installed to help protect employees and protected tribal information from unauthorized access.



Manistee Ford-Mercury is pleased to again offer Little River of Ottawa Indians Tribal Government employees and Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Members (including employee and member families) special discount pricing on new vehicles. New Ford and Mercury vehicles that are eligible for the supplier discount will be made available at that price. In addition, all parts and service customers will be given 15% off. This is valid on any non-sale or coupon related purchases. All customers must present their employee or tribal member identification prior to purchase.

**We look forward to assisting the entire  
Little River organization!**

**Make sure to visit**

**<http://manisteeFord.dealerconnection.com/>**

## Paid Internships Available

A limited number of paid internships are available through the Commerce Department's Workforce Development Program for FY 2010. If you are a LRBOI Tribal Preference Student (Citizen or Descendant) at least 18 years old with a 2.75 Cumulative Grade Point Average and enrolled in a degreed program at an accredited College or University, you may qualify for a paid internship. The Workforce Development Program offers the intern 240 paid hours at \$10.00 per hour. Interns are placed based on their interest and educational field of study at LRBOI government, enterprises and business entities. Tribal Citizens who are Class of 2010 High School Graduates at least 18 years old and enrolled in an accredited College or University in 2010 may also qualify for a paid internship. Those interested should contact the Workforce Development Program toll-free at 1-888-723-8288, extension 6842, direct line 231-398-6842, or e-mail [dhawley@lrboi.com](mailto:dhawley@lrboi.com) for additional internship program details and application materials.



## MUSCHIGON CONSTRUCTION, LLC



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Concrete Walls

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Manistee,  
Michigan 49660  
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Fax: 231-398-0802

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ange Alterations

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(any size)

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Quilts

Other regalia per request

Call Yvonne McShane

@ 231-723-7250

email:

[ymskigwaasange@yahoo.com](mailto:ymskigwaasange@yahoo.com)

## Tribal Govern- ment Internships



Tribal Members interested in doing an  
internship with the L.R.B.O.I. Tribal  
Government Office please contact:  
Department of Commerce:  
231-398-6806

## Government Closes for the following Holidays

- \*New Years Day
- \*Treaty Recognition Day
- \*Memorial Day
- \*Independence Day
- \*Labor Day
- \*Reaffirmation Day (September 21<sup>st</sup>)
- \*Veteran's Day
- \*Thanksgiving Day
- \*Friday after Thanksgiving Day
- \*Christmas Eve Day (Half Day)
- \*Christmas Day

Some areas of the government will be continue to be  
available on these holidays, such as Public Safety.  
Currents will inform you of any scheduled closings of  
the Government facilities. It's always a good idea to call  
first if you are not sure.

Just use the toll-free number of 888.723.8288.

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Mitch Theodore  
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Muskegon, Mi. 49442  
Office 231-788-2123

The Warriors Society is  
gathering photographs of members to be  
usewhen thier office opens.

Please send photos of  
our Warriors either in  
uniform or in  
civillian dress to  
the address below

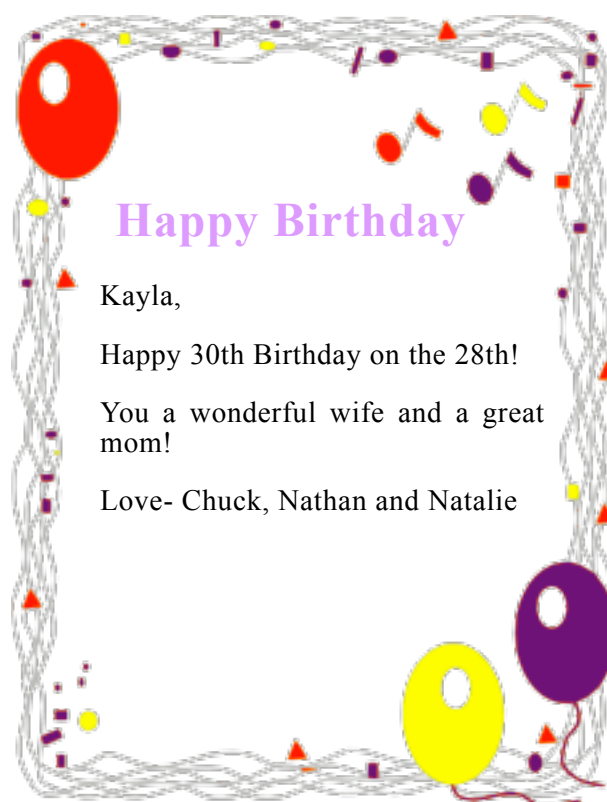


## WARRIORS SOCIETY

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians,  
Warriors Society,  
375 River Street, Manistee, Mi. 49660



# LRBOI Jiingtamok



Happy Birthday  
Kevin King  
Nicole Kopp  
Rod Mathews



Happy Fathers Day to all from the  
Commodity Dept.  
Happy Fathers Day  
Bruce King

## Nike N-7



The Nike N-7 shoe program at Little River is coming to an end on July 31st. If you still would like to get a pair of these special shoes, please contact the clinic and get your order in no later than July 31st. “

Admin Building hours of operation are Monday – Friday from 8 to 5. The office is closed for lunch from 12-1. Individuals in need of services during the lunch hour period may contact the departments to request an appointment.





A seminar was held at Little River Casino Resort on April 24 & 25 2010. This 1 ½ day event was a collaborative effort of Diabetes Education and the LRBOI Education and Commodities Departments. The Education Department provided handouts and resources on composting, seed saving, planting and gardening. The Commodities Department provided information on nutrition. Holly Davis Diabetes Coordinator served as hostess and introduced each speaker. The movie Food Inc. was shown to raise awareness about the food we eat today. Guest speaker Kathy LeBlanc, Cultural Services Director at Bay Mills Community College spoke about food from an indigenous perspective. Ms. LeBlanc teaches a course called "People and the Earth, Seasonal Lifeways" and shared her traditional stories and teachings learned from Elders and many years of teaching. Her teachings were well received by the audience.



The second day began with teachings by Jimmie Mitchell Natural Resources Director on traditional land use. Patrick Wilson spoke on his experience with gardening. Steve Fouch from Michigan State University Extension presented information on organic/healthy gardening. Deb Davis from LRBOI Education Department shared information on how to do composting and its benefits. Yvonne Parsons, Director of Education at LRBOI spoke on food preservation and seed saving.

This presentation was well received by all in attendance. The evaluations were positive on all the information presented and requesting further information and presentations of this type.





# Currents

You can find this and many other issues at [lrboi.com](http://lrboi.com)



*Ode'mini-Giizis (Strawberry Moon)*  
June 2010 Vol.7 Issue 6

*Megwa Ezhiweback*

## Inland Seas School Ship

Education has announced a wonderful opportunity for our young ones. An Inland Seas School Trip will be held on June 4th with a half day sailing on Suttons Bay, learning about Great Lakes. Students participate in scientific research at several different work stations onboard. They study water quality and clarity, invasive species, weather, and other aspects of Great Lakes ecology. Ages from 7 to 18 can attend. We have 10 spaces available at no cost. Lunch will be provided.

We will be leaving the Education Department offices at 6am sharp, so the parents will have to get the kids there by 5:30 am. The sailing is from 9am to 12:30pm and we will be back in Manistee by about 2:30pm. This is a Friday, so kids would be missing school, but absence letters explaining the educational nature of the activity will be provided.

We will select students on a first come first basis with Tribal members having preference. If we have more tribal applicants than spaces we will randomly draw names to fill the spaces.

This trip will be shared with the Grand Traverse Band Youth programs, so there will be kids from both tribes- and our deadline for people signing up is May 21st. Contact the Education Department and Yvonne Parsons at 231.398.6735.



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
375 River Street  
Manistee, Michigan 49660

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## Encode your Card!

The Enrollment Department and Tax Department have announced that you must have your Tribal ID card encoded so that you can continue to receive your discount at the Trading Post on motor fuel, tobacco and cigarette purchases. Please stop by the Enrollment Department (at the Old Community Center on US 31 in Manistee) and they will update your card for you. If you don't encode your card, you will not be able to receive the Tribal Member discount at the Gas Station!

The Enrollment Department will be at the Muskegon Office on Wednesday, June 9th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to create new Tribal I.D.s and to encode old I.D.s. Any questions please call the Enrollment Department.